U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/806,712
Title: Automatic Content Display Apparatus and Method
Applicant(s): Nishikawa et al.; Filing Date: March 23, 2004
Document: Amendment for RCE

Attorney Docket No. 81232 7114

Amendments to the Claims:

The following complete listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Kindly amend Claims 1, 5, 9, 11, 15 and 20 as follows, wherein no new matter has been introduced.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (currently amended) A method of automatically displaying content to at least one user, comprising:

providing access to characterizing descriptors as individually correspond to a plurality of discrete selectable items of data;

on a display comprising a two-dimensional display region[[:]],

simultaneously providing a plurality of discrete indicators within the two-dimensional display region for at least some of the discrete selectable items of data, which discrete indicators comprise at least a portion of the characterizing descriptors as corresponds to the discrete selectable items of data;

providing a segregated display area within the two-dimensional display region; and

automatically causing relative movement as between the segregated display area and the plurality of discrete indicators by changing position along a dimension of the two-dimensional display region of one of the segregated display area and the plurality of discrete indicators;

providing a plurality of cascading filters at least one smart filter for facilitating determination of a particular one of the discrete selectable items of data, the at least one smart filter providing step comprising providing an enhanced suggestion engine for making at least one recommendation based on at least one parameter selected from a group consisting essentially of a content nature uniqueness, a viewer identification, and a keyword, the plurality of cascading filters at least one smart filter providing step comprising providing each at least one smart filter being customizable for each at least one user, wherein the plurality of cascading filters at least one smart filter providing step comprising simultaneously considers considering content across a plurality of media, thereby

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providing a coordinated joint display comprising a plurality of integrated results, the plurality of integrated results comprising an aggregate pool of candidate viewing choices being reducible on a

25 basis of filter selection criteria from at least one element selected from a group consisting essentially of a plurality of different sources and a plurality of different formats; and

automatically displaying additional content as corresponds to the characterizing descriptors for a given one of the discrete indicators as interacts in a predetermined way, at least in part, with the segregated display area.

2.   (original) The method of claim 1 wherein providing access to characterizing descriptors as individually correspond to a plurality of discrete selectable items of data further comprises providing access to textual characterizing descriptors as individually correspond to a plurality of discrete selectable items of data.

3.   (original) The method of claim 1 wherein simultaneously providing a plurality of discrete indicators further comprises simultaneously providing a plurality of content titles.

4.   (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of discrete selectable items of data comprises a plurality of discrete selectable items of audio/visual content.

5.   (currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the characterizing descriptors as individually correspond to a plurality of discrete selectable items of data comprises at least one of:

a programming network identifier;

a broadcast starting time;

5   a description of the audio/visual content; and

content media source.

6.   (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the plurality of discrete selectable items of audio/visual content are embodied in a plurality of media.

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7.   (original) The method of claim 4 wherein automatically displaying additional content as corresponds to the characterizing descriptors for a given one of the discrete indicators as interacts in a predetermined way, at least in part, with the segregated display area comprises automatically displaying video content as corresponds to the characterizing descriptors for the given one of the discrete indicators.

8.   (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the plurality of discrete selectable items of audio/visual content comprises recently accessed items of audio/visual content.

9.   (currently amended) A method of automatically displaying content to at least one user, comprising:

providing access to characterizing descriptors as individually correspond to a plurality of discrete selectable items of data;

providing a plurality of user-selectable characterizing descriptor filter criteria;
on a display comprising a two-dimensional display region[[:]]﹐

simultaneously providing a plurality of discrete indicators within the two-dimensional display region for at least a portion of the discrete selectable items of data as corresponds to a present selection of a characterizing descriptor filter criterion, which discrete indicators comprise at least a portion of the characterizing descriptors as corresponds to the discrete selectable items of data;

providing a segregated display area within the two-dimensional display region; and

automatically causing relative movement as between the segregated display area and the plurality of discrete indicators by changing position along a dimension of the two-dimensional display region of one of the segregated display area and the plurality of discrete indicators;

providing a ~~plurality of cascading filters~~ <u>at least one smart filter</u> for facilitating determination of a particular one of the discrete selectable items of data, <u>the at least one smart filter providing step comprising providing an enhanced suggestion engine for making at least one recommendation based on at least one parameter selected from a group consisting essentially of a content nature uniqueness, a viewer identification, and a keyword,</u> the ~~plurality of cascading filters~~ <u>at least one smart filter</u>

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providing step comprising providing each <u>at least one smart filter</u> being customizable for each at least one user, wherein the ~~plurality of cascading filters~~ <u>at least one smart filter</u> simultaneously considers content across a plurality of media<u>, thereby providing a coordinated joint display</u>

25 <u>comprising a plurality of integrated results, the plurality of integrated results comprising an aggregate pool of candidate viewing choices being reducible on a basis of filter selection criteria from at least one element selected from a group consisting essentially of a plurality of different sources and a plurality of different formats</u>; and .

automatically displaying additional content as corresponds to the characterizing descriptors

30 for a given one of the discrete indicators as interacts in a predetermined way, at least in part, with the segregated display area.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the plurality of discrete selectable items of data comprise a plurality of discrete selectable items of audio/visual content.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the plurality of user-selectable characterizing descriptor filter criteria includes at least one of:

recently viewed discrete selectable items of data; <u>and</u>

recommended discrete selectable items of data.

12. (original) The method of claim 9 and further comprising: detecting user selection of a particular one of the plurality of discrete indicators.

13. (original) The method of claim 12 and further comprising: sending a signal indicating user selection of the particular one of the plurality of discrete indicators.

14. (original) The method of claim 12 and further comprising: detecting a remote control device signal indicating the user selection of a particular one of the plurality of discrete indicators.

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15. (currently amended) An interactive automatic data display system for at least one user, comprising:

characterizing descriptors as individually correspond to a plurality of discrete selectable items of data;

~~a plurality of cascading filters~~ at least one smart filter for facilitating determination of a particular one of the discrete selectable items of data, the at least one smart filter comprising an enhanced suggestion engine for making at least one recommendation based on at least one parameter selected from a group consisting essentially of a content nature uniqueness, a viewer identification, and a keyword, ~~the a plurality of cascading filters~~ each at least one smart filter being customizable for each at least one user, wherein the ~~a plurality of cascading filters~~ at least one smart filter simultaneously considers content across a plurality of media, whereby a coordinated joint display, comprising a plurality of integrated results, is provided, the plurality of integrated results comprising an aggregate pool of candidate viewing choices being reducible on a basis of filter selection criteria from at least one element selected from a group consisting essentially of a plurality of different sources and a plurality of different formats; and

control circuitry that:

displays a plurality of discrete indicators within a two-dimensional display region for at least some of the discrete selectable items of data, which discrete indicators comprise at least a portion of the characterizing descriptors as corresponds to the discrete selectable items of data;

provides a segregated display area within the two-dimensional display region;

automatically causes relative movement as between the segregated display area and the plurality of discrete indicators by changing position along a dimension of the two-dimensional display region of one of the segregated display area and the plurality of discrete indicators; and

automatically displays additional content as corresponds to the characterizing descriptors for a given one of the discrete indicators as interacts in a predetermined way, at least in part, with the segregated display area.

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16.   (original) The interactive data display system of claim 15 wherein the plurality of discrete selectable items of data comprises a plurality of discrete selectable items of audio/visual content.

17.   (original) The interactive data display system of claim 16 wherein the additional content as corresponds to the characterizing descriptors for a given one of the discrete indicators as interacts in a predetermined way, at least in part, with the segregated display area comprises video content.

18.   (original) The interactive data display system of claim 15 wherein the control circuitry further: detects user selection of a particular one of the plurality of discrete indicators.

19.   (original) The interactive data display system of claim 18 wherein the control circuitry further: sends a signal indicating user selection of the particular one of the plurality of discrete indicators.

20.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1,
        wherein providing access to characterizing descriptors as individually correspond to a plurality of discrete selectable items of data further comprises providing access to textual characterizing descriptors as individually correspond to a plurality of discrete selectable items of data,
        wherein simultaneously providing a plurality of discrete indicators further comprises simultaneously providing a plurality of content titles,
        wherein the plurality of discrete selectable items of data comprises a plurality of discrete selectable items of audio/visual content,
        wherein the characterizing descriptors as individually correspond to a plurality of discrete selectable items of data comprises at least one of:
        a programming network identifier;
        a broadcast starting time;
        a description of the audio/visual content; and
        content media source,

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wherein the plurality of discrete selectable items of audio/visual content are embodied in a plurality of media,

wherein automatically displaying additional content as corresponds to the characterizing descriptors for a given one of the discrete indicators as interacts in a predetermined way, at least in part, with the segregated display area comprises automatically displaying video content as corresponds to the characterizing descriptors for the given one of the discrete indicators, and

wherein the plurality of discrete selectable items of audio/visual content comprises recently accessed items of audio/visual content.

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